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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192068

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MOPS, PREL, PHUM, MARR, RW, UN

SUBJECT: ENCOURAGE THE FRENCH TO DONATE EQUIPMENT TO
UNAMIR UPON TERMINATION OF OPERATION TURQUOISE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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SUMMARY

2. WITH THE GOF EXPRESSING ITS DESIRE TO BRING OPERATION TURQUOISE IN RWANDA TO AN END AROUND 31 JULY 1994, THE PRESSURE IS ON THE UN AND DONOR COUNTRIES TO EQUIP AND DEPLOY UNAMIR AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, POTENTIAL EQUIPMENT DONORS HAVE BEEN SLOW TO RESPOND. THE U.S. IS IN THE PROCESS OF PROVIDING FOR GHANAIAN MISSION-ESSENTIAL NEEDS THROUGH THE UN, AND HAS ENCOURAGED OTHER POTENTIAL EQUIPMENT-DONOR COUNTRIES TO GET INVOLVED. THE FRENCH HAVE PREVIOUSLY INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE THE EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF THE SENEGALESE CONTINGENT TO THE EXPANDED UNAMIR. WE REQUEST POST TO ENCOURAGE THE GOF,

UPON THE TERMINATION OF OPERATION TURQUOISE, TO LEAVE BEHIND WHATEVER IS DEEMED MISSION ESSENTIAL FOR USE BY THE
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SENEGALESE, OR BY ANOTHER NATIONAL CONTINGENT IF THE
SENEGALESE DO NOT PARTICIPATE, IN ASSUMING A ROLE IN AN
EXPANDED UNAMIR.

BACKGROUND

3. IN RESOLUTIONS 918 AND 925 OF MAY 17 AND JUNE 8,
RESPECTIVELY, THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED EXPANSION
OF UNAMIR FROM 450 TO 5,500 TROOPS. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT
THE DEPLOYMENT OF THIS EXPANDED MISSION MOVE FORWARD AS
QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. THE FRENCH-LED HUMANITARIAN OPERATION, APPROVED ON
JUNE 22 IN UNSC RESOLUTION 929, IS ONLY A TEMPORARY
MEASURE TO FILL THE INTERIM UNTIL UNAMIR CAN BE ORGANIZED
AND DEPLOYED. WITH THE FRENCH MISSION EXPECTED TO END
WITHIN A FEW WEEKS, IT IS VITAL THAT RESOURCES FOR UNAMIR
BE IDENTIFIED RAPIDLY.

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5. THE PLANNED DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH, HOWEVER, IS
CONTINGENT ON THE FIELDING ON A CREDIBLE UNAMIR FORCE.
FRANCE CAN ASSIST IN THIS EFFORT BY LEAVING BEHIND
EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY UNAMIR.

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ACTION REQUEST

6. POST SHOULD APPROACH THE GOF AND ENCOURAGE THEM, UPON
TERMINATION OF OPERATION TURQUOISE, TO LEAVE THEIR
EQUIPMENT BEHIND FOR USE BY THE SENECALESE, OR BY ANOTHER
CONTINGENT WHICH PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPANDED
UNAMIR. FRANCE SHOULD ARRANGE TERMS FOR EQUIPMENT
TURNOVER WITH THE UN. SUCH AN APPROACH WILL ASSIST IN
ENSURING UNAMIR'S TIMELY TAKEOVER FROM OPERATION TURQUOISE.

7. POST MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN YOUR
DISCUSSIONS:

-- THE USG APPLAUDS THE GOF FOR ITS INITIATIVE AND
DECISIVENESS IN DEPLOYING A HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO
RWANDA. THE USG CONTINUES TO PROVIDE STRONG DIPLOMATIC
SUPPORT TO OPERATION TURQUOISE, AND STANDS READY TO
CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR MATERIAL SUPPORT.

-- AS THE CRISIS IN RWANDA MOVES INTO ITS FOURTH MONTH,
IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE WORLD COMMUNITY PROVIDE TROOP AND
EQUIPMENT SUPPORT TO THE EXPANDED UNAMIR SO THAT IT CAN
DEPLOY IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME. THE USG SHARES THE
GOF'S DESIRE TO SEE UNAMIR ASSUME FRANCE'S ROLE IN RWANDA
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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-- HOWEVER, THE USG FEARS THAT UNAMIR WILL NOT BE READY FOR SOME TIME UNLESS THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT CAN BE ATTAINED QUICKLY.

-- THE USG IS AGGRESSIVELY SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO MAKE THE GHANAIAN UNAMIR CONTINGENT FULLY DEPLOYABLE. WE HAVE ALREADY AIRLIFTED TO KAMPALA 50 APC'S FOR THEIR USE, AND ARE WORKING WITH THE UN TO PROVIDE OTHER MISSION ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT TO THE GHANAIANS.

-- WE SUPPORT THE FRENCH VIEW, AS EXPRESSED BY PRIME MINISTER BALLADUR IN THE UNSC ON JULY 10, WHICH SEEKS AN INCREASE IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR RWANDA AND TO HELP EXPEDITE THE DEPLOYMENT OF AN EXPANDED UNAMIR.

-- WHILE FRANCE HAS ALREADY GIVEN MUCH, YOU ARE IN AN EXCELLENT POSITION TO SECURE YOUR OWN GOAL OF A TIMELY TRANSITION FROM OPERATION TURQUOISE TO AN EXPANDED UNAMIR. YOUR EQUIPMENT COULD BE USED BY THE SENECALESE OR ANOTHER AFRICAN UNAMIR CONTINGENT UPON THE TERMINATION OF OPERATION TURQUOISE.

-- FRANCE AGAIN CAN TAKE THE LEAD AS YOU DID WITH OPERATION TURQUOISE, AND WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONTACT THE UN TO ARRANGE TERMS FOR YOUR EQUIPMENT TRANSFER.

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